

ANNUAL REPORT OF FIRE CHIEF

Total Losses During Year in Petersburg Amount to \$285,279.

NEW PYTHIAN CASTLE HALL

Interesting Ceremonies of Dedication—Alleged Swindler Identified.

The Times-Dispatch Bureau, 6 Bullingbrook Street (Telephone 1435), Petersburg, Va., January 4. The annual report of Chief Fawley, of the Fire Department, just issued, gives some interesting information concerning the fire record of the past year.

There were 117 alarms of fire during the year. Twenty-five fires were extinguished by the use of 548 gallons of chemical fluid, with but small loss.

The losses during the year by fire were: on real estate, \$112,496; on stocks and contents of buildings, \$172,863—a total of \$285,279.

The insurance on this property was: on real estate, \$224,785; on stocks and contents, \$207,125—a total of \$431,910.

The value of buildings was \$2,072,000; value of contents, \$218,672—a total of \$2,290,672.

Convention of Managers. R. E. Mayer, of this city, district manager Woodmen of the World, has accepted a special invitation to attend a convention of State managers and prominent organizers of the order to convene in Omaha, Neb., next Thursday, to be in session several days.

Parents Post Popular. The parents post business at the post-office is becoming more and more popular, and shows an increase each day. Packages have been sent to and received from all sections of the country, and the system is becoming an important branch of the business of the office.

Alleged Swindler Identified. W. M. Barton, the stranger who recently swindled the Stratford Hotel in this city out of \$50 by means of false representations, a false telegram and a fraudulent draft on the Southern Cotton Oil Company, of Charleston, S. C., has been fully identified in Brooklyn, N. Y., where he is under arrest.

City of Petersburg to the Young Men's Christian Association, the high school building and not on Union Street, \$14,500. Arthur H. Rosenfeld et al. to Vincent Russo, lot on Spycroft Street, \$3,750.

General News Notes. The Boy Scouts of Petersburg are clearing ground, cutting timber and building a log cabin on the farm of P. H. Drewry, in Dinwiddie. There are about forty Boy Scouts in Petersburg.

In the Police Court this morning Tom Sheldy, colored, arrested some days ago for cutting Dorsey Archer, also colored, was discharged on the ground of self-defense. Archer's wound was severe, but his infirmity was held to be justifiable.

A rumor reached the city this morning that a colored man named Carter was killed by being caught under a barn blown down by the wind. The rumor could not be verified, and is believed to have been concocted with the killing of John Carter at this city yesterday by being struck by the time

TWO TALENTED ROANOKE VIOLINISTS



MISS HAZEL S. MIDDAGH, of Roanoke.

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Among the talented and popular members of the Thursday Morning Music Club, of Roanoke, is Miss Hazel Shenandoah Middagh, a young girl who has established a reputation as a violinist, not only in her home city, but in various towns throughout the State where she has played.

She is a daughter of David B. Middagh, a Norfolk and Western official, and she is named from the town of her birth, Shenandoah. She was graduated from St. Andrews School, Roanoke, and was a student at Hollins and the Conservatory of Music, Cincinnati.

Last spring Miss Middagh substituted as violin teacher at Stonewall Jackson Institute, and was elected to the position for the present session, but declined, preferring the musical atmosphere of Roanoke, where she frequently appears in concerts, besides giving recitals in various towns.

Miss Middagh is a member of the Schubert Quintet, of which Mrs. Dexter Meadows is director and accompanist. The three remaining members being men. She is a decided brunette, tall and graceful with her bow, and popular wherever she is known. She has the artistic temperament, as evidenced by her mastery of this most difficult instrument.

Another talented member of the Thursday Morning Music Club is Miss Frances Brophy, who has a fine lyric soprano voice and, like Miss Middagh, is an artist with the bow.

She studied under John C. Arnold at De Sales Heights, Parkersburg, W. Va., and graduated from the Immaculate Seminary, Washington, in June, afterwards studying voice and violin at the Conservatory of Pittsburgh.

Miss Brophy belongs to a musical family. Her mother, Mrs. Brophy, was a pupil of William Mason, in New York, and has been a successful piano teacher in Roanoke and organist of St. Andrew's Catholic Church for a number of years. Her sister, Miss Eleanor Brophy, is a talented pianist.

AMUNDSEN GOING INTO FAR NORTH

Explorer Expects to Drift With Ice for Four or Five Years.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) New York, January 4.—Captain Ronald Amundsen, the Norwegian explorer, who planted his country's flag at the South Pole on December 14, 1911, is on his way to this country for a six month lecture tour.

He sailed from Southampton New Year's Day, on the American liner St. Paul, and is due to arrive in New York on next Wednesday.

Captain Amundsen will speak at Carnegie Hall on the evening of January 14, under the joint auspices of the American Geographical Society, the American Museum of Natural History and the Norwegian National League. A gold medal will be presented to the explorer by the American Geographical Society.

When his American tour is finished, said Captain Amundsen, before leaving England, "I return again to the business of my life. We start from San Francisco in June, 1914, and hope to get into the ice at the Bering Straits in September. Then we shall drift perhaps for four, perhaps five years.

"I do not propose to take an aeroplane with me," added the explorer, "and though I have been offered the gift of a wireless installation, I decline. I have declined that also. If you have better to be without news when you cannot be where the news comes from."

Asked what he chiefly attributed his success in the Antarctic, he replied: "To the men and the equipment—they were both perfect. As part of the equipment, I would put the dogs first. They were splendid. The main difference between Arctic and Antarctic explorations," he was asked, "is that in the Arctic there is only drifting ice, no solid land; at the South it is the climb to the high plateau that is the chief difficulty."

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Richmond, N. Y. Architect Wins. Richmond, N. Y., architect, of New York and Richmond, was one of many architects who submitted tentative plans for a six-story building to be erected this year in Indiana, for the Federal Savings and Trust Company of that city, and to cost \$1,000,000.

Some Cracking. Tom Powers, a fourteen-year-old boy, aggregating 2500 pounds of weight and having a height of 42 inches, was spotted from this place in 1912.

PROMINENT PLACE FOR VIRGINIANS

Old Dominion Troops Will Be Well Up in Line of Inaugural Parade.

MANN ENGAGES QUARTERS. Governor and His Staff Will Have Headquarters at Continental Hotel.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) Washington, January 4.—Judging from developments here to-day, there is reason to believe that the coming inauguration of Wilson and Marshall will be the biggest for the Virginia militia that it ever has had.

Major-General Wood has assigned the Virginia Military Institute cadets to a piece in the parade immediately following the Annapolis cadets. First will come the regular troops, then the West Pointers, these to be followed in turn by the midshipmen and the Virginia Military Institute men.

When the long line of march turns into Pennsylvania Avenue from the point of formation near the Capitol there doubtless will be many yells and cries for the men of the Virginia Military Institute.

In a short time the Military Affairs Committee of the House and Senate will give hearings on the bill of Congressman Flood and Senator Dupont to reimburse V. M. I. to the amount of \$214,723.67 for property and equipment destroyed by Federal troops in June, 1864.

Mr. Flood is most enthusiastic concerning the matter, and will use his best efforts to hurry it up. It is quite likely that some member of the Virginia delegation in Congress will introduce a bill during the next day or two providing that one of the government buildings in Washington, possibly the old Smithsonian Institution building, be turned over to the Virginia troops while here for their use.

A similar bill has been introduced by Representative Lintcomb, of Maryland. He asks that the City Hall be allowed to the Maryland men when they come to Washington. As there probably will be between 2,000 and 3,000 Virginia troops here, it is of the utmost importance that a suitable place where their arms can be secured, and where they can sleep, be provided. If such buildings are allowed, there would be no charge, and the troops thus save the expense of paying for these quarters. There is not the least doubt, according to Mr. Halsey, that Virginia will send more troops to the inauguration than in the State's history.

New Industry Induced. Mail packages insured for the parcel post system have after the passage of the act in this country and in Great Britain. From the agency standpoint the business is small but very easy to handle and very remunerative after once established.

The company will, through agents, conduct a business of insuring up to the value of packages are sent with it. The goods are then filed out along the coast, covering against loss by theft and loss by fire the time it is deposited in the post office until it reaches its destination.

Galax Gets Promise from N. & W. of Another Daily Train. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) Galax, Va., January 4.—Following the visit of a committee of Galax citizens to Roanoke to consult officials of the Norfolk and Western Railway, it has practically been decided that another train will be on this line from Galax to Roanoke. The committee went to Roanoke on a special train on Wednesday and had satisfactory conferences with the officials on that day and on Thursday, being greeted on its return that night by a great throng of citizens and the Galax brass band.

At present there is only one train each day, which leaves Galax at about 8 o'clock in the morning and arrives here at 10:45, then leaves Galax on the return at 11:00. This makes Galax very inaccessible. The new train, which will be put on probably about January 15, will leave Galax at 10:00 a. m. on the evening, arrive here about 11 o'clock, and leave on the return trip at 11 o'clock the following morning.

The members of the committee were as follows: W. H. Bolling, W. K. Early, S. F. Landreth, J. H. Rhoads, S. E. Wilkinson, J. F. Voss, A. C. Painter, Samuel Schell, A. W. Weiss and Mayor D. A. Robinson.

Will Study for Ministry. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) Amherst, Va., January 4.—Earl Richeson, son of T. V. Richeson, left this week for Blackstone, where he will enter the Baptist Training School preparatory to becoming a Baptist minister.

His Candidacy Will Be Championed by Former Governor. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) Bristol, Va., January 4.—Former Governor

Kaufmann & Co. Our Entire Stock of Fur Coats and Fur Neckpieces and Muffs Reduced 20% Nothing Restricted—Or Reserved. A Few of the Many Good Values. \$65.00 Fox Set, large muff and cape; to-morrow \$52.00. \$45.00 Grey Fox Set, pillow muff and throw scarf. \$36.00. \$90.00 Blended Squirrel Set, large throw and muff. \$72.00. \$45.00 Brown Squirrel Set, pillow muff and throw scarf. \$36.00. \$82.00 Grey Fox Set, pillow muff and scarf. \$65.00. \$70.00 French Seal Set, large pillow muff and cape. \$56.00. \$83.00 Genuine Moleskin Set, pillow muff and cape. \$65.40. \$150.00 Hudson Seal Coat, full length. \$120.00. \$137.00 Electric Seal Coat, full length. \$110.00. \$125.00 Hudson Seal Coat, full length. \$110.00. \$85.00 Near Seal Coat, full length. \$68.00. \$75.00 Pony Coat, 3/4 length. \$60.00. \$50.00 Pony Coat, 3/4 length. \$40.00. \$45.00 Astrakhan Coat, 3/4 length. \$36.00.

John I. Cox, of Tennessee, whose home is here and who will be one of the most prominent and influential members of the Tennessee Legislature, will champion the candidacy of the Hon. J. K. Shields, chief justice of the Supreme Court of the State, for United States Senator to succeed Senator Newell Sanders, Republican. The former Governor is hopeful that Judge Shields will be able to win, although the situation is such as to make the outcome very uncertain, mainly because of the factional strife that has kept the Democratic party in Tennessee divided in recent years.

Dr. Burroughs has re-recorded the record made by the Rev. Alfred H. Burroughs, "parson" of the Bristol Gretna Green. Referring to this the fact of the eighty-year-old minister in his will, when he remarked, "But the record was not satisfactory to cupid. I am sure, far be brought the seven young people had to remain up until after midnight to be married. Following that ceremony six other couples came in within the next few hours."

Dr. Burroughs has re-recorded about 400 couples, and although a very old man, he expects by cherishing a happy disposition to be able to set a record 6,000 before retiring to Father Time.

Major A. J. Blecker, superintendent of the Singer Building, denied a report that the vibration had been sufficient to produce a crack at the thirteenth floor, near the foot of the tower.

The thirty-second floor is the one furthest heavenward that is rented out in the Singer tower, the floors above being used for the company's offices, and it was the dwellers in that floor who noticed the wind's effect most.

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RIDING OUT GALE IN SKYSCRAPER

New York's Big Buildings Creak Like Ships at Sea.

They Sway Perceptibly. Occupants of Singer Offices Tell What It Feels Like in Ninety-Mile Blow.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) New York, January 4.—How it feels to ride out a blow on the wings of a 90-mile gale in the tops of New York City's super-skyscrapers was a story which was being variously told to-day, according to whether the sky dwellers were good or poor aviators.

Some of the tenants in the Singer Building said that the motion of the big frame was sufficient to shake bits of plaster off the ceilings.

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CASTRO BELIEVES HE IS FIT PERSON

Sees No Reason Why He Should Be Barred From This Country.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) New York, January 4.—General Cipriano Castro did not sail for Hamburg on the America this morning because of the writ of habeas corpus obtained the day before by George Gordon Battle in his behalf. He industriously helped his lawyers in preparing his case for the hearing, which is to be held next Friday. Incidentally, he executed several voluminous affidavits, in which he declares he is a fit person to visit the United States, and it is believed that Mr. Battle may use these affidavits Monday or Tuesday in an attempt to get the general off Ellis Island under bond, pending the final decision in his case.

As pleasant as his quarters are, the general would much prefer to occupy that suite at the Plaza he engaged by wireless on New Year's Eve.

In his affidavits to-day, the general took up about every provision of the law affecting the landing of aliens, and declared he did not come under the provisions which would bar him. He asserted among other things that he had come as a tourist.

"There has been no decision of deportation in the general's case," said Mr. Battle, "and I assume that this will be reached now by a board of special inquiry."

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Mr. Business Man--- You Need a Stieff Player-Payer! There's nothing like good music for helping you forget the day's drudgery and worries. As an entertainer—nothing can compare with a Stieff or Shaw Player-Piano. With them you can play anything as well as you ever heard it played—with feeling of real enjoyment. The World's Best. As proof, consider our gold medals, our testimonials, or ask any of the thousands of home-owners in Virginia. They're proud to own a Stieff or Shaw Piano or Player-Piano. E. G. RIKE, Mgr. Stieff 117 West Broad St.

His Candidacy Will Be Championed by Former Governor. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) Bristol, Va., January 4.—Former Governor